Employment opportunities for Tribals in Andhra Pradesh

*110. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coconut coir making, agarbatti making, dari weaving and Handloom Training Centres have been established by or with the funding of Government in the tribal parts of Andhra Pradesh for generation of employment opportunities for tribals in such areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for generation of employment opportunities for tribals of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribals Affairs has a scheme for the establishment of Vocational Training Centres to impart training to the tribal entrepreneurs in a number of trades including that of coconut coir making, agarbatti making , dari weaving, handloom etc. The entire expenditure of the scheme is borne by the Central Government and is operated throughout the country both by the State Government as well as Non-Governmental Sector. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, 13 such centers are being funded by the Ministry at present. However, training in the trades under reference do not form part of the training centers sanctioned so far in Andhra Pradesh since no proposal as per the provisions of the scheme has been received from the State of Andhra Predesh.

(c) Apart from providing Special Central Assistance, which is primarily aimed at implementation of income generating schemes which create employment, the Ministry sponsors a number of schemes such as vocational training centers, computer training centers, typing and shorthand training centers, tailoring, embroidery, etc. Additionally, the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation provides soft loans for self employment to the tribal youth for entrepreneurial ventures like auto-rickshaw, book binding, poultry, pig rearing etc.

Sale and manufacture of spurious medicines

*112. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
PROF. R. B. S. VARMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a spurt in the sale of spurious medicines in the market;

(b) if so, whether any raid has recently been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the results thereof;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the chemists and druggists/ manufacturers involved in the sale and manufacture of fake medicines; and

(e) further steps contemplated to prevent the production and marketing of spurious drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Government is aware of the problem of the manufacture and sale of spurious drugs. This is clandestine activity indulged in by some unscrupulous and anti-social persons.

(b) Yes, Sir. Spurious/fake medicines have been detected by State Licensing Authorities in Delhi and other parts of the country.

(c) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police in association with the Drugs Control Department of Government of NCT Delhi seized on 4th July, 2001, large stocks of allegedly spurious drugs from unlicensed persons/godowns located in and around Bhagirath Palace, Delhi.

As per the information available, they recovered stock/seized drugs worth Rs. 3,15,90,281/- and machinery of approximate value of Rs. 75,00,000/-. In all, 6 accused have been arrested in this case. The interrogation of the accused persons connected in this case led to the detection of manufacturing unit at Murthal, Haryana, which was functioning without any valid licence.

Ten samples of drugs were collected by the drug inspectors out of which 3 have been reported spurious. Besides, Delhi Police seized unclaimed drugs from unlicenced godowns, out of which 53 drugs were sent to the original manufacturers for verifying their genuineness and only 4 drugs were reported as genuine by them.

(d) Investigation in all such cases have been completed and prosecutions are being launched in 3 cases. Delhi Police has already launched prosecution for the seizure conducted by them.

(e) Since manufacture and sale of spurious medicines is a clandestine activity indulged in by anti-social persons, steps are taken from time to time by the enforcement authorities of the States to detect and unearth spurious/fake drugs in the interstate commerce.

I. The Drugs Controller General (India) has advised the State drug controllers to take the following measures for curbing the incidence of spurious drugs:—

(a) Constitution/reactivation of State Drug Advisory Committees in which various trade and industry associations as well as consumer associations should find representation.

(b) Establishment of separate intelligence-cum-legal machinery with police assistance. Training should be provided to selected officials of Drug Control Administration in the modalities of intelligence work, prosecution etc. in respect of spurious/counterfeit drugs.

(c) To ensure speedy analysis of drug samples by establishing own state level drug testing facilities.

(d) State Drugs Control Authorities should be cautious while approving licences for drug products to ensure that 'look-alike' products are not encouraged.

(e) To develop efficient communication facilities and recall procedures.

(f) Surveillance of suspected dealers.

(g) Engaging experienced counsel for fighting spurious drug cases.

(h) Cooperation of Pharmaceutical industry by regular interaction with them.

(i) Collection of Survey samples under National Survey Quality Evaluation of Drug (NSQED) programme.

II. Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare had sepcifically taken up the issue of combating the menace of manufacture and sale of spurious, adulterated and counterfeit drugs in the meeting of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare held on 12th and 13th July, 2001 in New Delhi.

It was resolved that in order to address issues relating to the increasing reports of the spurious/counterfeit drugs, special attention requires to be given

to monitor and unearth such illegal activities by Constituting a separate intelligence cell in the respective drugs control organization and in seeking cooperation of the Pharma Industry, the trade.

III. Union Ministry of Health and F.W. has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of DGHS on July 18, 2001 associating members from industry, trade, drug regulatory officials and public representative to go into all aspects of the menace of spurious drugs and suggest remedial measures.

NER Medical Colleges

*114. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of medical colleges of North-Eastern Region converted as Government Medical Colleges;

(b) whether Government contemplate converting the medical colleges of North-Eastern States as Government Medical Colleges; and

(c) whether the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Imphal, will be taken over by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) There are a total of four medical colleges in North-Eastern Region— three colleges in Assam and one college in Manipur. All the three medical colleges of Assam *viz.* (i) Silchar Medical College, Silchar (ii) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh and (iii) Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati, are State Government run Medical Colleges. The Medical College in Manipur in the name of Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, is run by a Society financed by North-Eastern States and Central Government through North-Eastern Council.

(c) There is no such proposal at present with the Government.

Plundering of Tribal Land by Non-tribals

*115. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports have been received about non-tribals plundering more than half of tribal land in some parts of the country like Andhra Pradesh; and